

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, dependent claim 6 has been incorporated into claim 1, and claim 6 has been cancelled.

Upon entry of the Amendment, which is respectfully requested, claims 1, 4 and 7-38 will be pending. (The Summary of Action indicates that claims 1-38 are pending. The Examiner appears to have overlooked that claims 2, 3 and 5 have previously been cancelled.)

Entry of the Amendment "after final" is appropriate and proper, because Applicants are merely combining two claims, and the Amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance.

In Paragraph No. 2 of the Action, claims 1, 4, 8-10, 15-16, 25, 26, 27, 29 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Matyjaszewski et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,807,937).

It is unclear whether claims 17-18 are also included in this rejection. Claims 17 and 18 are not mentioned in the list of rejected claims at page 2 of the Action, but the Examiner mentions them in the last full sentence on page 3 of the Action.

As noted above, claim 6 has in the present Amendment been incorporated into independent claim 1. Claim 6 was not subject to this rejection.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 4, 8-10, 15-16, 17-18 (if included in this rejection), 25, 26, 27, 29 and 34-35 based on Matyjaszewski et al are respectfully requested.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/798,511

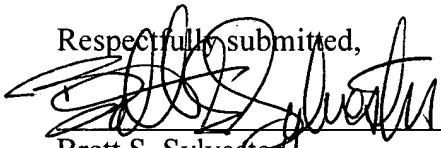
In Paragraph No. 5 of the Action, claims 7, 11-14, 17-24, 28, 30-33, 36-37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Matyjaszewski et al (U.S. Patent 5,807,937) as applied to claims 1, 4, 8-10, 15-16, 25-27, 29 and 34-35 above, and further in view of Hayama et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,123,933).

Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn for the same reasons that the preceding rejection should be withdrawn. That is, claim 6 was not subject to the present rejection, and claim 6 has been incorporated into independent claim 1 in the present Amendment.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103 rejection of claims 7, 11-14, 17-24, 28, 30-33, 36-37 and 38 based on Matyjaszewski et al in view of Hayama et al are respectfully requested.

Allowance is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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